

**CLASS SPECIFICATION**  
**County of Fairfax, Virginia**

**CLASS CODE:** 3139

**TITLE:** PHYSICAL THERAPIST I

**GRADE:** S-21

**DEFINITION:**

Under close supervision, provides prescribed physical therapy treatments to clients; teaches home exercises and other physical therapy procedures to the parents of children with a disability; and performs related work as required.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:**

This is an entry-level class. Upon completion of the training and experience requirement, employees must be promoted, transferred, or dismissed.

**ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:**

Consults with physicians in determining appropriate types of modalities;  
Administers various forms of physical therapy treatment;  
Gives active, passive, assisted, resistive, and postural exercises;  
Performs muscle testing and re-education;  
Fits crutches to the appropriate length and teaches proper walking gaits;  
Observes client reaction and takes necessary precautions to protect the client from injury;  
Maintains progress notes on clients;  
Keeps treatment room and equipment in order.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

Knowledge of, and the ability to administer, various types of physical therapy treatments;  
Knowledge of the operation and care of physical therapy equipment;  
Knowledge of anatomy and physiology;  
Ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing;  
Ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with children and parents.

**EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:**

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to:  
Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a bachelor's degree in a physical therapy program accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association or the American Medical Association.

**CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:**

Possession of a valid physical therapy license or Statement of Authorization for a Traineeship issued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

<b>REVISED:</b>	June 15, 1987
<b>REVISED:</b>	July 10, 1995
<b>REVISED:</b>	February 11, 1998